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7 **UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**
8 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
9 **(SACRAMENTO DIVISION)**

10 In re:

11 MATTERHORN GROUP, INC.,

12 Debtor.

13 VITAFREEZE FROZEN CONFECTIONS,
14 INC.,

15 Debtor.

16 DELUXE ICE CREAM COMPANY,

17 Debtor.

18
19 Affects ALL DEBTORS
20 Affects only MATTERHORN GROUP, INC.
21 Affects only VITAFREEZE FROZEN
CONFECTIONS, INC.
22 Affects only DELUXE ICE CREAM COMPANY

23 Lead Case No. 10-39672 (MSM)
Jointly Administered with Case Nos. 10-39664
(MSM), and 10-39670 (MSM).

24 DC No. LNB-20

25 Chapter 11 Cases

26 **DEBTORS' EMERGENCY MOTION FOR**
APPROVAL OF COMPENSATION TO
ESTATE REPRESENTATIVES
FOLLOWING CLOSING OF ASSET
SALE

27 Hearing:

28 Date: TBD
Time: TBD
Place: Department A
Judge Michael S. McManus
Courtroom No. 28
Floor No. 7
Robert T. Matsui Courthouse
501 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

1 Matterhorn Group, Inc., Vitafreeze Frozen Confections, Inc., and Deluxe Ice Cream
2 Company, the debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned, jointly administered
3 Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases (collectively, the “Debtors”), hereby file this Emergency Motion
4 (the “Emergency Motion”) for approval of compensation to be paid to estate representatives
5 following the closing of the Debtors’ pending going concern asset sale to Foster Dairy Farms
6 (“FDF”).

8 In support of this Emergency Motion, the Debtors respectfully represent as follows:

9 1. The Debtors commenced their bankruptcy cases by filing voluntary petitions under
10 Chapter 11 of 11 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* (the “Bankruptcy Code”) on July 26, 2010 (the “Petition
11 Date”). The Debtors continue to operate their business, manage their financial affairs, and
12 operate their bankruptcy estates as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107 and 1108 of
13 the Bankruptcy Code.

15 2. The Debtors are in the business of manufacturing the producing ice cream related
16 products in the Western United States. The Debtors, which have approximately 31 non-union
17 employees and 226 union employees, are collectively one of the largest independent producers of
18 ice cream and water-ice novelty products in the United States.

19 3. The Debtors’ primary secured creditor is Key Bank, N.A. (the “Bank”). An
20 Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the “Committee”) has been formed and is
21 represented by counsel.

23 4. As a result of the Debtors’ distressed financial predicament, the Debtors concluded
24 that they could not survive economically or successfully reorganize on cash collateral use alone.
25 As a result, the Debtors concluded that the only way for the Debtors to avoid a complete shut
26 down and liquidation of their business is for the Debtors to consummate an expedited sale of their
27 assets or to obtain millions of dollars of additional financing. Given the extent of the Debtors’
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1 debt structure, it is not possible for the Debtors to obtain the necessary additional financing to
2 survive beyond the early part of 2011. The Debtors therefore concluded that embarking on an
3 expedited asset sale process is in the overwhelming best interests of the Debtors' estates and the
4 only way to avoid a complete shut down and liquidation of the Debtors' business.
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6 5. The Bank and the Committee supported the Debtors' sale efforts. The Bank, the
7 Committee and the Debtors entered into a global settlement stipulation which provided for,
8 among other things, an allocation of the sale proceeds and the estates' cash following the closing
9 of any asset sale.

10 6. An auction sale of substantially all of the Debtors' assets (excluding cash and
11 avoidance causes of action) was held on November 5, 2010. The Debtors (through their
12 financial advisor Sherwood Partners), the Bank and the Committee all actively participated in the
13 auction sale process. Three qualified bidders appeared at the auction sale. FDF, which has no
14 connection to any insider of the Debtors, was deemed to be the winning bidder at the auction sale
15 with a winning bid of \$4.5 million with certain upward and downward price adjustments. The
16 outcome of the auction sale was approved by the Court at a hearing held on November 10, 2010.
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18 7. It now appears that the sale to FDF may close as early as Wednesday, November
19 24, 2010 or as late as Monday, November 29, 2010 (with FDF to determine the timing of the
20 actual sale closing).
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22 8. It is the expectation of the Debtors, the Bank and the Committee that following the
23 closing of the FDF sale, the Debtors' estates would remain in Chapter 11 while, among other
24 things, (i) avoidance causes of action are analyzed and, where appropriate, pursued; (ii) a claims
25 analysis is performed and, where appropriate, claims objections are filed; (iii) ultimately a
26 liquidating plan of reorganization would be proposed.
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1 9. As a result, following the closing of the FDF sale, while the Debtors will no longer
2 be operating a manufacturing business, the Debtors will continue to be managing three
3 bankruptcy estates and therefore continue to require people to serve as the representatives of the
4 Debtors' estates to perform, among others, the following services: (i) help facilitate the closing of
5 the asset sale to FDF, including negotiating, preparing and executing the numerous sale closing
6 documents, exhibits and schedules; (ii) assist counsel to analyze avoidance causes of action and to
7 serve as the Debtors' representative in connection with any related settlements and/or litigation;
8 (iii) assist counsel to analyze claims and to serve as the Debtors' representative in connection with
9 any claims litigation; (iv) continue preparation of all UST monthly operating reports and assist
10 with all other filings with the UST and the Bankruptcy Court; (v) serve as the estates'
11 representative in terms of communicating with creditors and other parties in interest; (vi) assist
12 the estates in connection with the preparation and confirmation of a liquidating plan of
13 reorganization and related disclosure statement; and (vii) provide assistance and information to
14 the Bank and the Committee and other relevant parties as needed.

15 10. Nathan W. Bell ("Bell"), the Debtors' current President, Chief Executive Officer
16 and Board Chairman, has agreed to serve as the Debtors' primary estate representative on the
17 terms set forth below. Bell will have available to him the assistance of the Debtors' current
18 financial management team on the terms set forth below. It is the Debtors' understanding that
19 both the Bank and the Committee support (or at least do not oppose) these terms.

20 11. For serving as the Debtors' primary estate representative, Bell will receive a
21 payment of \$15,000 concurrently with the closing of the FDF asset sale. For the month of
22 December, 2010, Bell will be paid the same \$25,000 that he currently makes plus reimbursement
23 for actual out-of-pocket expenses. For each month thereafter (i.e., commencing with January,
24 2011), Bell will be paid on an hourly basis at the rate of \$200 per hour, with a monthly cap of
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1 \$25,000 regardless of the number of hours worked plus reimbursement for actual out-of-pocket
2 expenses. For so long as Bell is serving as the primary estate representative, Bell will be paid for
3 a minimum of 10 hours worked per month. Other than for the month of December, 2010 (since
4 that involves a flat fee), Bell will file a monthly fee statement each month with the Court which
5 provides a detail of all services performed and the amount of time spent on those services, along
6 with the computation of fees earned. Bell will serve each such monthly fee statement on the
7 Bank, the Committee and the United States Trustee.¹ Parties in interest will have ten days to file
8 an objection to any such monthly fee statement. If no objection is timely filed and cannot be
9 consensually resolved by Bell and the objecting party, Bell will be paid from the Debtors' estates
10 the requested sum. If any objection is timely filed, the Court will resolve the objection and Bell
11 will not be paid the disputed sum until the objection is ruled upon by the Court. Bell will
12 continue serving as the primary estate representative unless and until he resigns (which would
13 require him to provide the Debtors, the Bank and the Committee with at least 30 days prior
14 written notice) or upon further order of the Court terminating his role.

17 12. For making herself available to assist Bell, Jennifer K. Loving ("Loving"), the
18 Debtors' current Chief Financial Officer, will receive a payment of \$7,500 concurrently with the
19 closing of the FDF asset sale. Thereafter, Loving will be paid on an hourly basis at the rate of
20 \$70 per hour² plus reimbursement for actual out-of-pocket expenses. As with Bell, Loving will
21 file a monthly fee statement each month with the Court which provides a detail of all services
22 performed and the amount of time spent on those services, along with the computation of fees
23 earned. Loving will serve each such monthly fee statement on the Bank, the Committee and the
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26 ¹ The Debtors' bankruptcy counsel will assist Bell in connection with the filing and service of his
27 monthly fee statements.

28 ² Loving currently receives an annual salary from the Debtors of \$145,000.

1 United States Trustee.³ Parties in interest will have ten days to file an objection to any such
2 monthly fee statement. If no objection is timely filed and cannot be consensually resolved by
3 Loving and the objecting party, Loving will be paid from the Debtors' estates the requested sum.
4 If any objection is timely filed, the Court will resolve the objection and Loving will not be paid
5 the disputed sum until the objection is ruled upon by the Court.
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7 13. For making themselves available to assist Bell, Aimee Galindo ("Galindo"), the
8 Debtors' current Controller, and Colleen Keith ("Keith"), the Debtors' current accounts payable
9 employee, will be paid on an hourly basis at the rate of \$40 per hour and \$20 per hour
10 respectively⁴, plus reimbursement for actual out-of-pocket expenses. As with Bell and Loving,
11 Galindo and Keith will file monthly fee statements each month with the Court which provides a
12 detail of all services performed and the amount of time spent on those services, along with the
13 computation of fees earned. They will serve each such monthly fee statement on the Bank, the
14 Committee and the United States Trustee.⁵ Parties in interest will have ten days to file an
15 objection to any such monthly fee statement. If no objection is timely filed and cannot be
16 consensually resolved by them and the objecting party, they will be paid from the Debtors' estates
17 the requested sum. If any objection is timely filed, the Court will resolve the objection and they
18 will not be paid the disputed sum until the objection is ruled upon by the Court.
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20 14. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, there will be a collective cap on the money
21 paid to Loving, Galindo and Keith for December, 2010 of \$15,000, and a collective cap of
22 \$10,000 for each month thereafter.
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24 25 ³ The Debtors' bankruptcy counsel will assist Loving in connection with the filing and service of her
monthly fee statements.

26 27 ⁴ Galindo currently receives an annual salary from the Debtors of \$85,000, and Keith currently receives
an annual salary from the Debtors of \$40,000.

28 ⁵ The Debtors' bankruptcy counsel will assist Galindo and Keith in connection with the filing and
service of their monthly fee statements.

15. The Debtors believe that the foregoing arrangement is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates and is designed to effectuate a smooth and efficient closing of the asset sale to FDF and the continued administration of the Debtors' bankruptcy estates.

Based upon all of the foregoing, the Debtors respectfully request that this Court enter an order approving the compensation terms and procedures outlined above and grant such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Date: November 17, 2010

LEVENE, NEALE, BENDER, YOO
& BRILL L.L.P.

/s/ Ron Bender
RON BENDER
J.P. FRITZ